

Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance prior to completing this form

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
(1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME <i>State the legal name of the FAC</i>
Royalty Policy Committee
(2) AUTHORITY <i>Identify the authority for establishing the FAC</i>
<p>The Committee is in the public interest in connection with the responsibilities of the Department of the Interior. Authority for this Committee is under the:</p> <p>Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2;</p> <p>Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331 et. seq.), including provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-058);</p> <p>Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 (30 U.S.C. 1701 et. seq.) (1996);</p> <p>Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Simplification and Fairness Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-185);</p> <p>Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001 et. seq.);</p> <p>Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et. seq.);</p> <p>Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 351 et. seq.), and</p> <p>Mineral Leasing Laws for Indian Land.</p>
(3) MISSION/FUNCTION <i>Describe the mission/function of the FAC</i>
<p>The Committee will provide advice to the Secretary of the Interior, through the Director of the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR), on the management of Federal and Indian mineral leases and revenues under the laws governing the Department of the Interior. The Committee will review and comment on revenue management and other mineral and energy-related policies, and provide a forum to convey views representative of mineral lessees, operators, revenue payors, revenue recipients, governmental agencies, and public interest groups.</p>
(4) POINTS OF VIEW <i>Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,</i> <i>(a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered;</i> <i>(b) consider indentifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and</i> <i>(c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members</i>
<p>Technical expertise necessary to accomplish Committee tasks shall derive from individuals which represent the interests affected by the regulations, including members representing Native Americans, various oil and gas companies and/or associations, and employees of the Department of the Interior. Committee membership will consist of approximately 25, but no more than 30, members.</p>
(5) OTHER BALANCE FACTORS <i>List any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC</i>

None

(6) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should:

- (a) describe the process*
- (b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name)*
- (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and*
- (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable*

A Federal Register notice shall be published to solicit membership on the Committee to assure we reach qualified, interested candidates with professional and/or personal qualifications and experience relevant to the Committee's functions who represent Native Americans and the various oil and gas companies and/or associations, and employees of the Department of the Interior.

We will ask nominators to submit the full names of the nominees, their office and fax telephone numbers, home addressees and telephone numbers, their resumes or biographies, and their mailing and e-mail addresses. The information shall be provided to the designated Committee GFO.

Upon receipt of nominee packages, the GFO determines preliminary balance on the Committee, by reviewing the nomination packages for requested information and determining status of nominees; i.e., how many nominees represent the same industry or Native American Tribe. That information is then provided to the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) and/or Bureau or Office Director for final balance determination. The resulting top candidates will be vetted by the White House Liaison and approved for appointment. Formal letters of invitation to serve on the Committee will be extended by the Secretary.

Members are appointed for a 3-year term. Non-Federal members may serve up to two consecutive terms. After a 2-year break in service, non-Federal members will again be eligible for appointment.

(7) SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

Subcommittees are not subject to FACA because they are not providing advice directly to a Federal Officer of the Department of the Interior. All advice or work products go directly to the parent Committee for review, consideration and deliberation at a FAC meeting before being submitted to the Department of the Interior through the DFO.

(8) OTHER

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

None

(9) DATE PREPARED/UPDATED

Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated

March 16, 2012